ANNUAL TOWN MEETING WARRANT - FY2014

Town of Rowe

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

FRANKLIN, SS.

To either Constable of the Town of Rowe in the County of Franklin,

GREETING:

In the name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, you are hereby directed to notify and warn the inhabitants of said town, qualified to vote in elections and town affairs, to meet at the ROWE TOWN HALL in said Rowe, on SATURDAY the EIGHTEENTH day of MAY 2013 at 8:00 a.m. and then and there to bring their votes by ballot for the following officials and the following questions:

- 1 Selectman for three (3) years
- 1 Assessor for three (3) years
- 1 Board of Health Member for three (3) years
- 1 Cemetery Commissioner for three (3) years
- 1 Finance Committee Member for three (3) years
- 2 Finance Committee Members for one (1) year
- 1 Library Trustee for three (3) years
- 1 Moderator for three (3) years
- 1 Park Commissioner for three (3) years
- 1 Planning Board Member for five (5) years
- 1 School Committee Member for three (3) years
- 1 School Committee Member for one (1) year

1 Treasurer for one (1) year
Question 1: Shall the Town of Rowe have its elected Treasurer become an appointed Treasurer of the town? YES NO
Question 2: Shall the Town of Rowe have its elected Tax Collector become an appointed Tax Collector of the town YES NO
For the purpose of electing officials by ballot and voting on questions the polls will be open at 8:00 O'Clock p.m. in the morning and will be closed at 3:00 O'Clock p.m. in the afternoon.
And in the name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, you are further directed to notify and warn to inhabitants of the Town of Rowe, qualified to vote in the elections and town affairs, to meet at the ROWE FI STATION in said ROWE on MONDAY, the THIRTEENTH day of MAY 2013, at 7:00 P.M. in the evening, then and the to act on the following articles:
ARTICLE 1: To act on reports of the Town officers and committees.

ARTICLE 3: To see if the town will vote to amend the General By-laws at Article III, General Government - Section **18, Planning Board,** by adding the following to the end of said section:

ARTICLE 2: To choose all necessary officers not elected by ballot for the ensuing year.

The Planning Board shall have authority to hire such legal counsel as it deems necessary and appropriate, subject to a prior appropriation of Town Meeting specifically for such purpose.

ARTICLE 4: To see if the Town will vote to **RAISE and APPROPRIATE** the following sums for the conduct of **General Government,** including the charges and expenses of the various town offices, and compensation for elected and appointed officials for the 2014 fiscal year, or take any action in relation thereto.

Administration	
Legal Expenses	12,000.00
General Administration	28,000.00
Town Officer Expenses	2,000.00
Print Town Reports	4,600.00
Municipal Audit	7,500.00
Town Coordinator Salary	60,817.00
Administrative Assistant Compensation	13,000.00
IT Hardware/Software	10,350.00
Tax Collector's Operations	7,008.00
Election/Teller Expenses	4,000.00
Registrars & Census Takers Compensation	350.00
Assistant Treasurer Compensation	100.00
Bank Charges/Loan Interest	750.00
Bonding and Insurance	45,000.00
Town-wide Notification System	1,000.00
Municipal Center Operations/Maintenance	15,420.00
Town Hall Custodian Wages	6,620.00
Town Hall Fuel Oil	6,000.00
Town Hall Electricity	8,000.00
Town Hall Elevator Maintenance Contract	3,380.00
Energy Committee Operations	250.00
Council on Aging	4,000.00
Conservation Commission Operations	500.00
Subtotal Administration	240,645.00
Assessors' Office	240,043.00
Assessors' Clerk Compensation	0.256.00
	9,356.00
Assessors' Triangial Payalyation	8,000.00
Assessors' Triennial Revaluation Subtotal Assessors' Office	15,000.00
	32,356.00
Planning Board Operations	1 250 00
Planning Board Operations	1,250.00
Planning Board Consulting Expenses & Independent Counsel	5,000.00
Planning Board Goal Post Operations	10,100.00
Subtotal Planning Board	16,350.00
Stipends Madagatag Stipend	410.00
Moderator Stipend	419.00
Selectmen Stipends	5,657.00
Assessors Stipends	5,187.00
Treasurer Stipend	7,982.00
Tax Collector Stipend	7,281.00
Town Clerk Stipend	7,281.00
Subtotal Stipends	33,807.00
Veterans Services	F00 00
Veterans' District Services Assessment	500.00
Operations	450.00
Veterans' Benefits	100.00
Subtotal Contracted Services	1,050.00

Contracted Services

FRCOG Cooperative Purchasing Program	1,391.00
FRCOG Accounting Program	24,045.00
Payroll Services	4,250.00
FCCIP Inspection Program (Building, Wiring, Plumbing, Gas)	3,500.00
IT Consultant	6,500.00
Subtotal Contracted Services	39,686.00
Regional Assessments	
FRCOG Regional Services Assessment	11,390.00
FRCOG Statutory Assessment	8,449.00
Subtotal Regional Assessments	19,839.00

Subtotal General Government From Taxation

383,733.00

Recommended by the Finance Committee

ARTICLE 5: To see if the Town will vote to **RAISE and APPROPRIATE** the sum of \$20,000.00 to be used as a **Reserve Fund** for extraordinary or unforeseen expenditures for the 2014 fiscal year, or take any action in relation thereto.

Requested and Recommended by the Finance Committee

TOTAL GENERAL GOVERNMENT FROM TAXATION

403,733.00

ARTICLE 6: To see if the Town will vote to **RAISE and APPROPRIATE** the following sums for the operation and maintenance of **Public Works and Facilities** for the 2014 fiscal year, or take any action in relation thereto:

Highway Department

DPW Superintendent's Salary	80,291.00
DPW Heavy Equipment Operators' Wages	180,662.00
DPW Operations & Maintenance	31,930.00
DPW Heating Oil	5,500.00
DPW Electricity	1,500.00
Fuel for Town Vehicles	40,000.00
Road Surface Maintenance/Reclamation	50,000.00
Annual DPW Projects	43,050.00
Snow & Ice Removal (Winter Roads)	68,612.00
Subtotal Highway Department	501,545.00

Other Public Works & Facilities

Summer Youth Employment Program	25,500.00
Street Lighting	5,253.00
Municipal Light Plant	1,000.00
Subtotal Other Public Works & Facilities	31,753.00

TOTAL PUBLIC WORKS & FACILITIES FROM TAXATION

Cemeteries - Cemeteries - Maintenance/Repair

548,298.00

25 500 00

15,000.00

Recommended by the Finance Committee, with a 1.7% increase to the Summer Youth Employment Program [\$25,934...diff \$434]

ARTICLE 7: To see if the Town will vote to **RAISE and APPROPRIATE** the following sums for **Public Safety** for the 2014 fiscal year, or take any action in relation thereto:

Police Department	
Police Chief Stipend	13,224.00
Police Officers Compensation	20,654.00
<u>Operations</u>	7,050.00
Subtotal Police Department	40,928.00
Fire Department	
Fire Chief Stipend	7,281.00
Fire Officers Stipends	5,690.00
Fire Department Administrative Clerk	3,688.00
Firefighter Stipends	7,638.00
Fire Department General Operations	16,602.00
Fire Station Heating Oil	4,300.00
Fire Station Electricity	2,000.00
Emergency Management	1,000.00
Forest Fire Control	100.00
Hazardous Material Control	1,000.00
Subtotal Fire Department	49,299.00
Emergency Medical Services	
EMS Coordinator Stipend	2,119.00
Emergency Personnel Stipends/Expenses	6,000.00
EMS Operations and Maintenance	1,500.00
Subtotal Emergency Medical Service	9,620.00
Animal Control and Inspection	
Animal Control Officer Stipend	628.00
Regional Dog Control/Adoption Center Membership	700.00
Animal Inspector Stipend	524.00
Subtotal Animal Control and Inspection	1,852.00
Constable Stipend	524.00
Constable Stipenu	324.00

TOTAL PUBLIC SAFETY FROM TAXATION

102,222.00

Recommended by the Finance Committee

ARTICLE 8: To see if the Town will vote to **RAISE and APPROPRIATE** to the **STABILIZATION FUND** the sum of \$3,000.00 for future ambulance services, or take any action in relation thereto.

Note: Two-thirds vote is required to pass Articles involving Stabilization funds.Recommended by the Finance Committee

ARTICLE 9: To see if the Town will vote to **RAISE and APPROPRIATE** the following sums for **Public Health and Sanitation** for the 2014 fiscal year, or take any action in relation thereto:

Transfer Station Attendant Compensation	15,253.00
Household Hazardous Waste Collection Day	500.00
Refuse Garden Operations	33,000.00
Franklin County Solid Waste Mgmt District Assessment	2,135.00
Board of Health Stipend	4,714.00
Board of Health Clerk Wages	6,958.00
Board of Health Operations	16,000.00

Town Nurse Wages	42,697.00
Health Services Operations	6,500.00
Physician's Stipend	500.00

TOTAL PUBLIC HEALTH AND SANITATION FROM TAXATION

128,257.00

Recommended by the Finance Committee

ARTICLE 10: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Health, pursuant to MGL Chapter 44, Section 53E½, to use a **revolving fund with a limit of \$5,000.00** for fiscal year 2014 to accept receipts related to the Town's recycling program and expenditures for the operation of the Town's solid waste and recycling programs, membership in and services in the Franklin County Solid Waste Management District, and the purchase of recycled content or environmentally preferable products, to be under the authority of the Board of Health, in which any remaining funds may be rolled over into a similar revolving fund for fiscal year 2015, or take any action in relation thereto.

Requested by the Board of Health

Recommended by the Finance Committee

ARTICLE 11: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Health, pursuant to MGL Chapter 44, Section 53E½, to use a **revolving fund with a limit of \$3,500.00** for the 2014 fiscal year to accept receipts from the Medicare Roster Billing Program for the purpose of **providing vaccine services**, in which any remaining funds may be rolled over into a similar revolving fund for fiscal year 2015, or take any action in relation thereto.

Requested by the Board of Health

Recommended by the Finance Committee

ARTICLE 12: To see if the Town will vote to **RAISE and APPROPRIATE** the following sums for **Kindergarten through Sixth grade (K-6) Public Schools** for the 2014 fiscal year, or take any action in relation thereto:

School Committee Stipend		4,357.00
Rowe School Local Budget		
Administration	8,525.00	
Instructional	753,780.00	
Operations	120,220.00	
Student Support Services	95,443.00	
Technology	5,984.00	
Subtotal Rowe School Local	983,952.00	
Less Estimated School Choice Receipts (Teacher Salaries)	(160,287.00)	
K-6 Rowe School Local Operating Budget	823,665.00	
Shared Services Budget		
Admin	37,662.00	
Instructional	24,196.00	
Operations	2,693.00	
Student Support Services	4,425.00	
Technology	15,122.00	
Transportation	52,989.00	
Benefits	23,993.00	

TOTAL K-6 Budget 984,745.00

Subtotal Shared Services

Recommended by the Finance Committee

161,080.00

ARTICLE 13: To see if the Town will vote to **RAISE and APPROPRIATE** the following sums for **Seventh through Twelfth grade (7-12) Public Schools** for the 2014 fiscal year, or take any action in relation thereto:

High School Budget (Mohawk/FC Tech)

Instructional - Spanish Teacher	15,000.00
Mohawk Late Bus	15,000.00
Transportation Contracted	50,011.00
Tuition – Mohawk Trail Regional MS/HS (See note)	287,388.00
Tuition – Franklin County Technical HS (see note)	67,000.00

TOTAL 7-12 Public Schools from Taxation 434,399.00

NOTE: Mohawk Tuition: 27 students @ \$10,6445 = \$287,388

Franklin County Tech: 4 students @ \$16,000 + \$3,000 = \$67,000

TOTAL PUBLIC SCHOOLS FROM TAXATION

1,423,502.00

Recommended by the Finance Committee

ARTICLE 14: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the School Committee, pursuant to MGL Chapter 44, Section 53E½, to use a **revolving fund with a limit of \$10,000.00** for the 2014 fiscal year to accept fees for **School Programs** for the purpose of offsetting department costs, in which any remaining funds may be rolled over into a similar revolving fund for fiscal year 2015, or take any action in relation thereto.

Requested by the School Committee

Recommended by the Finance Committee

ARTICLE 15: To see if the Town will vote to **RAISE and APPROPRIATE** the following sums for the **Rowe Town Library** for the 2014 fiscal year, or take any action in relation thereto:

Library Director Compensation	23,400.00
Library Staff Wages	16,365.00
Library Operations and Maintenance	18,511.00
Library Heating Oil	2,000.00
Library Electricity	1,600.00
CWMARS Mininet Annual Membership	3,567.00
Library CWMARS Overdrive Assessment	250.00
TOTAL ROWE TOWN LIBRARY	65,693.00

Recommended by the Finance Committee, with Library Staff Wages increase limited to 1.7% [\$15,944...diff (\$421)]

ARTICLE 16: To see if the Town will vote to **RAISE and APPROPRIATE** the following sums for the **management and operation of Pelham Lake Park** for the 2014 fiscal year, or take any action in relation thereto:

TOTAL PARK	104,171.00
Operation and Maintenance	19,952.00
Park Wages	40,244.00
Park Ranger Salary	43,975.00

Recommended by the Finance Committee, with a 1.7% increase to Park Wages [\$41,233...diff \$989]

ARTICLE 17: To see if the Town will vote to **RAISE and APPROPRIATE** the following sums fiscal year 2014 for **Culture** and **Recreation** items, or take any action in relation thereto:

Gracy House Operations	4,000.00
Gracy House Materials/Supplies	500.00
Beautification Committee	2,000.00
TOTAL GRACY HOUSE	6.500.00

Recommended by the Finance Committee

ARTICLE 18: To see if the Town will vote to **RAISE and APPROPRIATE** the following sums fiscal year 2014 for **Old Home Days,** or take any action in relation thereto:

TOTAL OLD HOME DAY	11,000.00
Old Home Day Fireworks	5,500.00
Old Home Day	5,500.00

Recommended by the Finance Committee

ARTICLE 19: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Old Home Day Committee, pursuant to MGL Chapter 44, Section 53E½, to use a revolving fund with a limit of \$5,000.00 for the 2014 fiscal year to accept departmental receipts generated by Old Home Day activities and programs for the purpose of defraying expenses of Old Home Day, in which any remaining funds may be rolled over into a similar revolving fund for fiscal year 2015, or take any action in relation thereto.

Requested by the Old Home Day Committee Recommended by the Finance Committee

TOTAL CULTURE AND RECREATION FROM TAXATION

187,364.00

ARTICLE 20: To see if the Town will vote to **RAISE and APPROPRIATE** the following sums for **Pensions and Insurance** for the 2014 fiscal year, or take any action in relation thereto.

Franklin County Retirement Assessment	115,054.00*
Unemployment Insurance	1,000.00**
Group Health Insurance	390,000.00**
FICA/Medicare Tax	39,000.00**

TOTAL PENSION & INSURANCE FROM TAXATION

545,054.00

- * Excludes pension costs for teachers in MA Teachers' Retirement
- ** Costs are for all applicable town & school employees

Recommended by the Finance Committee

ARTICLE 21: To see if the Town will vote to **APPROPRIATE** from **FREE CASH** the sum of \$78,772.00 to be used to **reduce the FY2014 tax rate**, or take any action in relation thereto.

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen

Recommended by the Finance Committee: an amount adjusted to reflect 1.7% increases in

Wages as indicated in Articles 6, 15 & 16 [difference = \$1,002.00]

ARTICLE 22: To see if the Town will vote to **APPROPRIATE** from the **CAPITAL STABILIZATION FUND**, the following sums **for capital equipment**, **repairs**, **and improvements**, or take any action in relation thereto:

DPW – Mack Dump Truck & Sander

220,000.00

TOTAL CAPITAL STABILIZATION FUND

220,000.00

Finance Committee recommends the appropriation for the DPW—Mack Dump Truck & Sander

Note: Two-thirds vote is required to pass Articles involving Stabilization funds.

ARTICLE 23: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectmen to acquire by purchase, gift, eminent domain or otherwise permanent and temporary easements located in the Town of Rowe in certain parcels of land adjacent to and/or contiguous to the "Monroe Bridge," so-called, or the "Depot Street Bridge," so-called, which joins Monroe Hill Road, in Rowe, and Depot Street, in Monroe, and crosses the Deerfield River, as depicted on certain plans entitled "Massachusetts Department of Transportation Highway Division Plan and Profile of Depot Street/Monroe Hill Road," revised through March 12, 2013, on file with the Town Clerk, and the permanent and temporary easements in parcels of land located within 200 feet of said parcels, as such additional areas may be shown on said plans, as hereinafter revised, for public way purposes, including, without limitation, permanent highway easements and easements for the construction of improvements and structures, and other related purposes, which will enable the Town to undertake the Monroe Bridge reconstruction project; and as funding for such acquisitions and costs and expenses related thereto, to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds, or borrow, or any combination thereof, a sum of money, or take any action in relation thereto

ARTICLE 24: To see if the Town will vote to **change the office of Town Treasurer from elected to appointed**, in accordance with General Laws Chapter 41, Section 1B.

ARTICLE 25: To see if the Town will vote to **change the office of Town Tax Collector from elected to appointed**, in accordance with General Laws Chapter, Section 1B.

ARTICLE 26: Licensing Restriction By-law

To see if the Town will vote to accept the provisions of **General Laws Chapter 40, Section 57** and to adopt the following General By-law in accordance with said statute to be added as **Article IV, Section 5**:

Section 5. LICENSING RESTRICTION BYLAW

A. Furnishing of list of delinquent taxpayers by Tax Collector.

The tax collector shall annually furnish to each department, board, commission or division, hereinafter referred to as the licensing authority, that issues licenses or permits including renewals and transfers, a list of any person, corporation, or business enterprise, hereinafter referred to as the party, that has neglected or refused to pay any local taxes, fees, assessments, betterments or other municipal charges for not less than a twelve month period, and that such party has not filed in good faith a pending application for an abatement of such tax or a pending petition before the appellate tax board.

B. Denial, revocation or suspensions of licenses and permits.

The licensing authority may deny, revoke or suspend any license or permit, including renewals and transfers of any party whose name appears on said list furnished to the licensing authority from the tax collector or with respect to any activity, event or other matter which is the subject of such license or permit and which activity, event or matter is carried out or exercised or is to be carried out or exercised on or about real estate owned by any party whose name appears on said list furnished to the licensing authority from the tax collector; provided, however, that written notice is given to the party and the tax collector, as required by applicable provisions of law, and the party is given a hearing, to be held not earlier than fourteen days after said notice. Said list shall be prima facie evidence for denial, revocation or suspension of said license or permit to any party. The tax collector shall have the right to intervene in any hearing conducted with respect to such license denial, revocation or suspension. Any findings made by the licensing authority with respect to such license denial, revocation or suspension shall be made only for the purposes of such proceeding and shall not be relevant to or introduced in any other proceeding at law, except for any appeal from such license denial, revocation or suspension. Any license or permit denied, suspended or revoked under this section shall not be reissued or renewed until the license authority receives a certificate issued by the tax collector that the party is in good standing with respect to any and all local taxes, fees, assessments, betterments or other municipal charges, payable to the municipality as the date of issuance of said certificate.

C. Payment agreements; limitations on license or permit.

Any party shall be given an opportunity to enter into a payment agreement, thereby allowing the licensing authority to issue a certificate indicating said limitations to the license or permit and the validity of said license shall be conditioned upon the satisfactory compliance with said agreement. Failure to comply with said agreement shall be grounds for the suspension or revocation of said license or permit; provided, however, that the holder be given notice and a hearing as required by applicable provisions of law.

D. Waivers.

The board of selectmen may waive such denial, suspension or revocation if it finds there is no direct or indirect business interest by the property owner, its officers or stockholders, if any, or members of his immediate family, as defined in G.L. c.268A, §1, in the business or activity conducted in or on said property.

E. Nonapplicability.

This bylaw shall not apply to licenses or permits for open burning (G.L. c.48, §13); bicycles (G.L. c.85, §11A); sales of articles for charitable purposes (G.L. c.101, §33); children work permits (G.L. c.149, §69); clubs or associations dispensing food or beverage licenses (G.L. c.140, §21E); dog licenses (G.L. c.140, §137); fishing, hunting, trapping licenses (G.L. c.131, §12); marriage licenses (G.L. c.207, §28); theatrical events and public exhibition permits (G.L. c.140, §181); and any other local license or permit which the Town chooses to exclude from this bylaw by further amendment to this bylaw.

ARTICLE 27: To act on the following **Citizens' Petition:**

We, the undersigned voters of the Town of Rowe, petition that the above article be placed on the Town Meeting warrant for Monday, May 13th 2013.

To see if the Town will vote to amend the Town's Zoning Bylaw by adding new Article V, Section 2F, Temporary Moratorium on the Construction of Large Scale Wind Energy Systems that would provide as follows:

Article V, Section 2F: Purpose

If the Town of Rowe becomes a target of interest for the construction of large scale wind energy systems, this could have a dramatic affect [on] the Town as a whole. The Town of Rowe is rural and there currently are no large scale wind energy systems in the Town. There is an identifiable community need to establish long-term zoning regulations to ensure that such uses and development will be consistent with the Town's long term planning interests. It is crucial that the Town act now to establish a temporary moratorium on the use of land and the construction of structures related to such large scale wind and the issuance of building permits in connection with the same.

Article V, Section 2G: Temporary Moratorium

Notwithstanding any other provision in the Town of Rowe Zoning Bylaw to the contrary, no building permit may be issued for the construction of any large scale large wind energy system of more than 35 kilowatts, until July 1, 2014. The purpose of this temporary moratorium is to allow sufficient time to engage in a planning process to address the effects of such structures and uses in the Town and to enact bylaws in a manner consistent with sound land use planning goals and objectives, or take any action related thereto.

ARTICLE 28: The Board of Selectmen would like a **Sense of the Meeting** on the following matter:

1. Shall the town seek the installation of a cell tower(s)?

ARTICLE 29: To transact any other business that may lawfully come before the meeting.

And you are directed to serve this warrant by posting up attested copies thereof at the **Rowe Town Hall** and the **Rowe Transfer Station** in said Town, fourteen days at least before the time of holding said meeting.

Hereof fail not, and make due return of the Warrant, with your doings thereon, to the Town Clerk at the time of said meeting, as aforesaid.

Given under our hands this TWENTY-NINTH day of APRIL in the YEAR OF OUR LORD TWO THOUSAND and THIRTEEN.

Marilyn Wilson, Chairman Paul McLatchy III Noel Abbott SELECTMEN OF ROWE

FRANKLIN, SS.

Pursuant to the within Warrant, I have notified and warned the inhabitants of the Town of Rowe by posting up attested copies of the same at the **ROWE TOWN HALL** and the **ROWE TRANSFER STATION, FOURTEEN** days before the date hereof, as within directed.

Robert L. Dykeman, Constable - Date: April 29, 2013

A true copy, Attest: Robert L. Dykeman, Constable

RECAPITULATION OF FY2014 ANNUAL TOWN MEETING ARTICLES

May 13, 2013

(Recapitulation is for information only)

Appropriations from Taxation			
General Government	403,733.00		
Public Safety	102,222.00		
Schools	1,423,502.00		
Public Works and Facilities	548,298.00		
Public Health/Sanitation	128,257.00		
Culture & Recreation	187,364.00		
Pensions and Insurance	545,054.00		
Stabilization Fund	3,000.00		
Total Appropriations From Taxation		\$3,341,430.00	
Appropriations from Available Funds			
None	0.00		
Total Appropriations from Available Funds		0.00	
Appropriations from Free Cash			
None	0.00		
Total Appropriations from Stabilization Fund		0.00	
Appropriations from Stabilization Fund			
None	0.00		
Total Appropriations from Stabilization Fund		0.00	
Appropriations from Capital Stabilization Fund			
DPW – Dump Truck & Sander	220,000.00		
Total Appropriations from Capital Stabilization Fund		<u>220,000.00</u>	
SUBTOTAL FY2014 BUDGET		3,561,430.00	
Appropriation from Free Cash to Reduce FY2014 Tax Rate		78,772.00	
TOTAL FY2014 BUDGET		3,640,202.00	
Revolving Fund Authorizations			
Board of Health – Vaccine Services	3,500.00		
Board of Health – Recycling Proceeds	5,000.00		
School Committee – School Programs	10,000.00		
Old Home Day Committee – Old Home Day Program	5,000.00	ć 22 500 00	
Total Revolving Funds Authorized		\$ 23,500.00	